





# The Constitution

ATLANTA, GA., APRIL 6, 1880.

The situation is to be modified by a national convention. This convention will undoubtedly put greenback candidates, and in most of the states present electoral tickets. Such a contingency is to be regretted; for a square-out race between the centralists and the conservatives is desirable in all the states, and especially in the doubtful ones.

Texas delegation proves to be in favor of Sherman after all. Like surprises are liable to come up from other southern states—for instance, from Mississippi, where the only republican paper is an ardent supporter of the treasury chief. Fully one-third of the southern delegates will be pledged to Sherman, and he is therefore by no means weak a man in the race as has generally been supposed.

Mr. Gladstone still refuses to accept office, but proposes to heartily support the recognized liberal leaders. This will scarcely satisfy the people, and unless the liberal majority is larger than is now thought possible, it will endanger the existence of any cabinet that may be formed. Mr. Gladstone is the one man who can consolidate the liberal party and keep it in power. At present the liberals are very far from having a common purpose, and they therefore need a leader who commands the respect, if not the admiration, of all.

Yesterday the people of Indiana elected township officers and voted upon seven proposed amendments to the constitution of the state. The only amendment of general interest is those providing for a registry law and for a change in the day of election from October to November. On the same day this people of Michigan voted upon two constitutional amendments, one of which increases the salary of the governor from \$1,000 a year to \$3,000. Connecticut held her township elections yesterday. To-morrow Rhode Island elects state officers and a legislature. The new legislature will elect a senator—Barnside's successor. A constitutional amendment is also pending in this state abolishing the payment of a registry tax and the performance of military duty as qualifications for an election. For state officers there are four tickets in the field—democratic, republican, greenback and prohibition. Horace M. Kimball and Alfred H. Littlefield are, respectively, democratic and republican gubernatorial candidates. At last spring's election, Charles C. Van Zandt, republican and prohibition candidate for governor, received 97,717 votes; Thomas W. Sagar, democratic, 5,385; Samuel Hill, greenback, 318. The present state legislature has a republican majority of 57 on joint ballot.

The race of the republican aspirants is by no means as one-sided as some may think it is. The actual preferences, aside from the doubtful workings of the unit rule, of the delegates-elect are said to stand as follows:

Blaine	Grant	Sherman	Edmonds
Maine	1	1	1
Vermont	1	1	1
Rhode Island	1	1	1
New York	1	1	1
Pennsylvania	1	1	1
Indiana	1	1	1
Illinois	1	1	1
Ohio	1	1	1
Michigan	1	1	1
Wisconsin	1	1	1
Minnesota	1	1	1
North Carolina	1	1	1
Texas	1	1	1
California	1	1	1
Idaho	1	1	1
Montana	1	1	1
Wyoming	1	1	1
Nebraska	1	1	1
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